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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/570,617	01/17/2007	Tetsujiro Kondo	286439US6PCT	9553

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EXAMINER	
NORTON, JENNIFER L	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2121	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/570,617	KONDO, TETSUJIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JENNIFER L. NORTON	2121	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 June 2010*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3,4,26 and 29-42* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3,4,26 and 29-42* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *03 March 2006* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a **Final Office Action** in response to the Amendment received on 08 June 2010. Claims 26 and 31 have been amended. Claims 2, 9, 11, 12, 15, 24, 27 and 28 were previously cancelled. Claims 5-8, 10, 13, 14, 16-23 and 25 have been cancelled. Claims 35- 42 are newly added. Claims 1, 3, 4, 26 and 29-42 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks pgs. 7-11, filed 08 June 2010 with respect to claims 1, 3, 4, 26 and 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

3. In response to applicant's argument (see Remarks, pg. 7, paragraph 5 - pg. 8, paragraph 2) that the examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

4. In response to applicant's argument (see Remarks, pg. 8, paragraph 2) that there is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness may be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988), *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992), and *KSR International Co. v. Teleflex, Inc.*, 550 U.S. 398, 82 USPQ2d 1385 (2007). In this case, U.S. Patent No. 4,418,333 (hereinafter Schwarzbach) teaches to providing an improved remote control system which affords great flexibility, convenience and reliability (col. 1, lines 8-13, col. 2, lines 10-13 and col. 29, lines 27-29).

5. Applicant argues that the prior art fails to teach, "said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building." The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

The limitations of "said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building" of claims 1, 29 and 36, and similarly, "physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building" of claim 26 was presented in the alternative with the limitation, "or controls power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said configuration".

Hence, the Examiner has meet the claimed limitation of "controls power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said configuration" with the rejection of claims 1, 26, 29 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,586,254 (hereinafter Kondo) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,418,333 (hereinafter Schwarzbach).

Furthermore, the Examiner emphasizes that all anticipated components and limitations of pending claims are present in the prior art as supported below. In addition, the Examiner notes the limitations of "based on said importance of said status information acquired by said acquiring means, said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building" in claims 35, 37 and 42; and "based on said importance of said status information, said changing the configuration of at least one component of components making up said building physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building" in claim 41 were newly presented in the Amendment After Non-Final received on 08 June 2010 by the Office, and has been addressed as set forth in the Office Action below.

6. Claims 1, 3, 4, 26 and 29-34 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as set forth below.

35 U.S.C 112, 6th Paragraph

7. The claimed limitations of claims 1 and 29 have been treated under 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph.

Claim Objections

8. Claims 35, 37, 41 and 42 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. The limitations of "based on said importance of said status information acquired by said acquiring means, said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building" in claims 35, 37 and 42; and "based on said importance of said status information, said changing the configuration of at least one component of components making up said building physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building" in claim 41 are found in respectively in parent claims 1, 36, 29 and 26. The Examiner acknowledges the limitations of "based on said importance of said status information acquired by said acquiring means, said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building", and "based on said importance of said status information, said changing the configuration of at least one component of components making up said building physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building" are

presented in the alternative, however, when interpreted as a positive limitation in the parent claims of 1, 36, 29 and 26, dependent claims 35, 37, 42 and 41 (respectively) do not further limit the subject matter of their parent claims 1, 36, 29 and 26.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1, 3, 4, 26 and 29-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,586,254 (hereinafter Kondo) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,418,333 (hereinafter Schwarzbach).

10. As per claim 1, Kondo teaches a control device (Fig. 1a, element 102) for controlling components of a building (col. 18, lines 20-34, col. 19, lines 4-6, col. 27, lines 63-67 and col. 28, lines 1-5), comprising:

control means (Fig. 1a, element 103) for changing a configuration of at least one component configuration (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged manner, changing display symbols) of components making up said building (col. 18, lines 20-34);

acquiring means for acquiring status information (col. 26, lines 4-52); and

determining means for determining an importance (i.e. the magnitude of significance of the fault) of said status information acquired by said acquiring means (col. 27, lines 40-54),

wherein, based on said importance of said status information acquired by said acquiring means, said control means deforms (i.e. changing display symbols) a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14).

Kondo does not expressly teach said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building or controls power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said configuration.

Schwarzbach teaches to controlling (via Fig. 1, element 30; i.e. central control unit) power supply to an electric socket (Fig. 1, element 25; i.e. outlet sockets) disposed in said building to physically change said configuration (col. 2, lines 44-65, col. 3, lines 59-68, col. 4, lines 1-8 and col. 11, lines 5-10; e.g. the central control unit controls light intensity of a remote lamp via controlling power levels to an electrical outlet socket).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Kondo to include controlling power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said

configuration to provide an improved remote control system which affords great flexibility, convenience and reliability (col. 1, lines 8-13 and col. 2, lines 10-13).

11. As per claim 3, Kondo teaches as set forth above said status information is information indicating the status illumination in said component (col. 30, lines 29-61).

12. As per claim 4, Kondo teaches as set forth above a status information storing means (Fig. 11, element 900) which stores a list (Fig. 11, element 903) relating to said status information (col. 20, lines 10-19, col. 26, lines 52-58 and col. 27, lines 43-54).

13. As per claim 26, Kondo teaches a control method of a control device (Fig. 1a, element 102) for controlling components of a building (col. 18, lines 20-34, col. 19, lines 4-6, col. 27, lines 63-67 and col. 28, lines 1-5) including:

changing a configuration of at least one component (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged manner, changing display symbols) of components making up said building (col. 18, lines 20-34);

acquiring status information (col. 26, lines 4-52); and

determining an importance (i.e. the magnitude of significance of the fault) of said status information (col. 27, lines 40-54),

wherein, based on said importance of said status information, said changing the configuration of at least one component (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged manner, changing display symbols) of components making up said building (col. 18, lines 20-34) deforming (i.e. changing display symbols) a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14).

Kondo does not expressly teach processing in said changing step physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building or controls power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said configuration.

Schwarzbach teaches to controlling (via Fig. 1, element 30; i.e. central control unit) power supply to an electric socket (Fig. 1, element 25; i.e. outlet sockets) disposed in said building to physically change said configuration (col. 2, lines 44-65, col. 3, lines 59-68, col. 4, lines 1-8 and col. 11, lines 5-10; e.g. the central control unit controls light intensity of a remote lamp via controlling power levels to an electrical outlet socket).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Kondo to include controlling power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said

configuration to provide an improved remote control system which affords great flexibility, convenience and reliability (col. 1, lines 8-13 and col. 2, lines 10-13).

14. As per claim 29, Kondo teaches a building (col. 19, lines 4-6, col. 27, lines 63-67 and col. 28, lines 1-5) comprising:

control means (Fig. 1a, element 103) for changing a configuration of at least one component (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged manner, changing display symbols) of components making up said building (col. 18, lines 20-34);

acquiring means for acquiring status information (col. 26, lines 4-52); and

determining means for determining an importance (i.e. the magnitude of significance of the fault) of said status information acquired by said acquiring means (col. 27, lines 40-54), wherein,

based on said importance of said status information acquired by said acquiring means, said control means deforms (i.e. changing display symbols) a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14).

Kondo does not expressly teach said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building or controls power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said configuration.

Schwarzbach teaches to controlling (via Fig. 1, element 30; i.e. central control unit) power supply to an electric socket (Fig. 1, element 25; i.e. outlet sockets) disposed in said building to physically change said configuration (col. 2, lines 44-65, col. 3, lines 59-68, col. 4, lines 1-8 and col. 11, lines 5-10; e.g. the central control unit controls light intensity of a remote lamp via controlling power levels to an electrical outlet socket).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Kondo to include controlling power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said configuration to provide an improved remote control system which affords great flexibility, convenience and reliability (col. 1, lines 8-13 and col. 2, lines 10-13).

15. As per claim 30, Kondo teaches as set forth above the control device according to claim 1, wherein, based on said status information acquired by said acquiring means, said control means displays images on an inner portion of said building to visually change said configuration (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged manner).

16. As per claim 31, Kondo teaches as set forth above based on said status information changing a configuration of at least one component (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged

manner, changing display symbols) of components making up said building (col. 18, lines 20-34) displays images on an inner portion of said building to visually change said configuration (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged manner).

17. As per claim 32, Kondo teaches as set forth above based on said status information acquired by said acquiring means, said control means displays images on an inner portion of said building to visually change said configuration (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged manner).

18. As per claim 33, Kondo teaches as set forth above said status information includes information indicating illumination in said component (col. 30, lines 29-61).

19. As per claim 34, Kondo teaches as set forth above status information storing means (Fig. 11, element 900) for storing a list (Fig. 11, element 903) relating to said status information (col. 20, lines 10-19, col. 26, lines 52-58 and col. 27, lines 43-54).

20. Claims 35, 41 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kondo in view of Schwarzbach in further view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0098915 A1 (hereinafter Baldry).

21. As per claim 35, neither Kondo nor Schwarzbach expressly teach said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building.

Baldry teaches to a control means (pgs. 4-5, par. [0073] and [0074]; element 85 (not shown); i.e. remote control) physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member (Fig. 1, element 22) disposed in said building (pg. 1, par. [0001] and pgs. 4-5, par. [0069] and [0074]; i.e. moving a door sill (Fig. 1, element 22) in an upward and downward position to align with the floor surface (Fig. 1, element 73) of a single family residence or apartment building).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Kondo in view of Schwarzbach to include a control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building to provide an unobstructed passageway for wheelchair bound individuals in an affordable manner without the need for significant retrofitting of the building structure (pg. 1, par. [0004] and pg. 4, par. [0069]).

22. As per claim 41, neither Kondo nor Schwarzbach expressly teach changing the configuration of at least one component of components making up said building physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building.

Baldry teaches to a control means (pgs. 4-5, par. [0073] and [0074]; element 85 (not shown); i.e. remote control) physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member (Fig. 1, element 22) disposed in said building (pg. 1, par. [0001] and pgs. 4-5, par. [0069] and [0074]; i.e. moving a door sill (Fig. 1, element 22) in an upward and downward position to align with the floor surface (Fig. 1, element 73) of a single family residence or apartment building).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Kondo in view of Schwarzbach to include a control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building to provide an unobstructed passageway for wheelchair bound individuals in an affordable manner without the need for significant retrofitting of the building structure (pg. 1, par. [0004] and pg. 4, par. [0069]).

23. As per claim 42, neither Kondo nor Schwarzbach expressly teach said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building.

Baldry teaches to a control means (pgs. 4-5, par. [0073] and [0074]; element 85 (not shown); i.e. remote control) physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member (Fig. 1, element 22) disposed in said building (pg. 1, par. [0001] and pgs. 4-5, par. [0069] and [0074]; i.e. moving a door sill (Fig. 1, element 22) in an upward and

downward position to align with the floor surface (Fig. 1, element 73) of a single family residence or apartment building).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Kondo in view of Schwarzbach to include a control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building to provide an unobstructed passageway for wheelchair bound individuals in an affordable manner without the need for significant retrofitting of the building structure (pg. 1, par. [0004] and pg. 4, par. [0069]).

24. Claims 36-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kondo in view of Baldry.

25. As per claim 36, Kondo teaches as control device for controlling components of a building, comprising:

a control unit (Fig. 1a, element 103) configured to change a configuration of at least one component of components making up said building (col. 18, lines 20-34, col. 19, lines 4-6, col. 27, lines 63-67 and col. 28, lines 1-5);

an acquiring unit configured to acquire status information (col. 26, lines 4-52); and

a determining unit configured to determine an importance (i.e. the magnitude of significance of the fault) of said status information acquired by said acquiring unit (col. 27, lines 40-54),

wherein, based on said importance of said status information acquired by said acquiring unit, said control unit deforms (i.e. changing display symbols) a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14).

Kondo does not expressly teach said control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building or controls power supply to an electric socket disposed in said building to physically change said configuration.

Baldry teaches to a control means (pgs. 4-5, par. [0073] and [0074]; element 85 (not shown); i.e. remote control) physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member (Fig. 1, element 22) disposed in said building to physically change said configuration (pg. 1, par. [0001] and pgs. 4-5, par. [0069] and [0074]; i.e. moving a door sill (Fig. 1, element 22) in an upward and downward position to align with the floor surface (Fig. 1, element 73) of a single family residence or apartment building).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Kondo in view of Schwarzbach to include a control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable

member disposed in said building to physically change said configuration to provide an unobstructed passageway for wheelchair bound individuals in an affordable manner without the need for significant retrofitting of the building structure (pg. 1, par. [0004] and pg. 4, par. [0069]).

26. As per claim 37, Kondo does not expressly teach the control device according to claim 36, wherein, based on said importance of said status information acquired by said acquiring unit, said control unit physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building.

Baldry teaches to a control means (pgs. 4-5, par. [0073] and [0074]; element 85 (not shown); i.e. remote control) physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member (Fig. 1, element 22) disposed in said building (pg. 1, par. [0001] and pgs. 4-5, par. [0069] and [0074]; i.e. moving a door sill (Fig. 1, element 22) in an upward and downward position to align with the floor surface (Fig. 1, element 73) of a single family residence or apartment building).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Kondo in view of Schwarzbach to include a control means physically deforms a shape of a shape-variable member disposed in said building to provide an unobstructed passageway for

wheelchair bound individuals in an affordable manner without the need for significant retrofitting of the building structure (pg. 1, par. [0004] and pg. 4, par. [0069]).

27. As per claim 38, Kondo teaches as set forth above said status information is information indicating the status illumination in said component (col. 30, lines 29-61).

28. As per claim 39, Kondo teaches as set forth above a status information storing means (Fig. 11, element 900) for storing a list (Fig. 11, element 903) relating to said status information (col. 20, lines 10-19, col. 26, lines 52-58 and col. 27, lines 43-54).

29. As per claim 40, Kondo teaches as set forth above said control unit displays images on an inner portion of said building to visually change said configuration (col. 26, lines 45-58 and col. 28, lines 6-14; i.e. changing the color, flashing on or off, displaying in enlarged manner).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following references are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to the remote control of devices.

U.S. Patent No. 5,003,800 discloses to a remote control station and integrally installed electronic control circuit for use with a bolt and lock mechanism.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JENNIFER L. NORTON whose telephone number is (571)272-3694. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on 571-272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Albert DeCady/
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2121

/JLN/